



FOREVER PEOPLE™

BY DeMATTEIS,
CULLINS & KESEL



From EARTH to FOREVER

■ **GREEN ARROW #3:**
Concluding the two-part saga to
Langfear Hunter. By Miles Gail, Ed Herlihy
and Dick Giordano with a painted cover by
Gail.

■ **FOREVER PEOPLE #2:**
The dark, low-motivated tone and
reality as our heroes "return from heaven" to
the work of posterhood. By J.M. DeMatteis,
Pam Collier and Karl Kesel.

■ **WILDCAT #2:**
Dennis depicts from Red pages
London and Constantine plays them in their
own game! By Justin Delano and John Edgely
with a painted cover by Dave McKean.

■ **YOUNG ALL-STAR #10:**
"You" Mays leaves the stuffy book
about his father. By Ray and Dave Thomas,
Brian Murphy and Nicholas Jones.

■ **LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #46:**
Gardner's saga is revealed in his
"people" will live home. By Paul Levitz, Greg
Lafayette and Mike DeCarlo.

■ **SWAMP THING #70:**
The quest for the new Swamp Thing
begins—but what about Abby? By Rick Veitch
and Alfredo Alcala.

■ **INFINITY, INC. #48:**
The search behind Babylon's origin
revealed. By Ray and Dave Thomas, Vince
Agostino and Tony Salmons.

■ **NEW YORK THINGS #41:**
The story now draws into what seems
to be a conspiracy of ghosts! By Ray
Williams, Ed Bernice and Dennis Topp.

■ **THE SHADOW #8:**
A host of revenge-crazed Batmanes
want the Shadow and his operations. Host
Andrew Helfer and debuting regular new artist
Eyle Balaz.

■ **BLACKWAVE #2:**
Writer/writer Howard Chaykin presents
his re-creation of the classic World War II era
and his question: It's a whirlwind of excitement
in this first issue. Preview: Future miniseries
on Blackhawk have changes of Communist
sympathies.

■ **THE GREATEST SUPERMAN
STORIES EVER TOLD:**
A 20-page landmark collection spanning fifty
years of the last Superman talent over! The
talent cover includes Jerry Siegel and Joe
Shuster, John Byrne, Wayne Boring, Gene Smith,
Jack Kirby, Alan Moore and many others.

■ **SPECTRE #12:**
A tale of a stolen Stone Machine
Zanada and will be found before New York is
two apart! By Greg Nazzari and Gary Morano.

■ **QUESTION #14:**
Buried alive and resuscitated by an
alien, the Question faces his greatest chal-
lenges. By Denny O'Neil, Deoxy Green and Rick
Magno.

■ **WASTELAND #4:**
John Ostrander, Del Oros, Donald
Singer, William Messner Ladd, George Freeman
and David Lloyd continue to make ideas
of terror and the future.

MEANWHILE...

BY DICK GIORDANO

"It's not a dream," I kept telling
myself. "It's not a hoax. It's not an
imaginary story. It's real."

I thought I'd been spending a few
too many late nights at the office, and
had dreamed this up. But, no, the
people at Macy's had dreamed this
up. In their Herald Square Arcade,
they opened something they call the
"Superman Shop." It's stocked to the
rafters with all kinds of Superman
paraphernalia: watches, pins, and
especially those T-shirts. (I now have
one that proclaims that I'm "Faster
than a Speeding Bullet." It refers in
my case to inking, not driving.)

What would possess the folks at
Macy's to construct a little slice of the
Fortress of Solitude here in the Big
Apple? They know what we know:
that Superman's Fiftieth Birthday
Celebration is in full swing, and it
seems like everybody wants to join
in! If you haven't seen Superman in
the past few months on the tube, on
the silver screen, in your local store,
or even in Washington, D.C., well,
maybe you haven't been looking.

When it comes to the best of time,
Superman's passed it with, I guess
you'd say, flying colors. Since that
day in 1938 when the first issue of
ACTION COMICS hit the stands, Super-
man's become an American in-
stitution. And a lot of other American
institutions are taking the time to
say "Happy Birthday" to the Man of
Steel.

The Smithsonian Institution, for
example. Their exhibit, "Superman:
Many Lives, Many Worlds" began last
June and will run through June '88. I
got to see it on a V.I.P. tour, and I'm
glad I did: their National Museum of
American History expects to attract
in the neighborhood of five million
visitors a year. In addition, on Octo-
ber 31 and November 1, the Mu-
seum is giving a symposium entitled
"The Superheroes in America" with
guest speakers such as National Public
Radio's Susan Stamberg, author
Penny Stallings, historian Barbara
Tuchman, cartoonist and playwright
James Fennell, and (henceforth here) our
own Jenette Kahn!

I mentioned the Macy's shop ear-
lier, which in addition to other good-
ies, has racks and racks of DC Comics
(that's got to be a first: DC Comics
for sale in Macy's!), but don't think
that New Yorkers are the only ones
who'll get to see a shop dedicated to
everybody's favorite hero. Macy's in
Atlanta is planning to open similar
shops in its stores very soon. And
what's the Thanksgiving Day Parade
without the Superman balloon? This
current incarnation of the balloon is

actually the largest in the parade, and
will be given a special birthday sur-
prise over NBC!

Not to be outdone, mind you, EMO
Schwarz, the world's most famous toy
store, will be doing its own Super-
man promotion early next year. They
never do anything in a small way, so
look forward to hearing a lot more
about it!

I wasn't kidding when I said you'd
be seeing a lot of the Man of Steel on
the tube. If you live in San Jose, you
probably caught some (or all) of the
Superman Marathon KICU-TV
Channel 36 broadcast no less than
thirty hours of the vintage George
Reeves Superman TV show, as a re-
peat of the record-breaking ratings
success they had with last year's
marathon.

WOTV, Channel 19 in Cleveland,
plans a Superman Marathon of its
own: twelve full hours of those classic
TV adventures!

That's not even mentioning the
prime-time special on CBS that's due
soon. Garth Peters and Broadway
Video are working with Warner
Brothers Television on a one-hour
special. The producer is Lorne
Michael, the creator of Saturday
Night Live.

Quite a lot of the festivities
planned for Superman's Birthday
center around Cleveland. Cleveland is,
for all intents and purposes, the
birthplace of Superman, since that's
where Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster
grew up, went to school and thought
up only the world's first and greatest
superhero. The early discussions of
these plans have included a tick-
etage parade (do they still make tick-
etage?), an unveiling of a permanent
statue of the Man of Steel by a
nationally known artist, an ongoing
exhibition and a major comics
convention.

This isn't even scratching the sur-
face. There's only so much I can
mention in so short a space, and not
all of our plans are firm as yet. But I'll
tell you this. Keep February 29, 1988
open on your calendar. I know we've
always kind of kidded around about
Superman's birthday falling on the
29th of February, as a way of explain-
ing how he manages to look so good
after fifty years. This time, however,
we're in earnest. That's all I'm going
to say. That's all I'm allowed to say, or
it would spoil the surprise.

And if you think I'd ruin a surprise
party for the Big Guy, you haven't
seen him when he gets angry. . . .

Thank you, Big Guy! And good
afternoon.

Dick

THERE'S SLEEP -- BUT NO REST. THERE ARE NIGHTMARES -- BUT NO DREAMS.



HE SHOULD BE USED TO IT BY NOW! HOW MANY YEARS HAS HE THRASHED AND WHIMPERED -- CLAWING THE SHEETS... BATHED IN SWEAT?



HIS NEVER GONE FOR HELP. HE DOESN'T BELIEVE IN PSYCHIATRISTS. "WHATEVER IT IS, I'LL HANDLE IT MYSELF." HE'S TOLD HIS WIFE AGAIN AND AGAIN.



OF COURSE THAT WAS BEFORE --

-- IT STARTED HANDLING HIM!



BUT TONIGHT THERE'S
SOMETHING NEW:
NOT JUST THE
SHADOW-THINGS
CRAWLING OVER HIM.
NO, NOW, IN THE
DISTANCE, HE SEES
FIVE FIGURES...
FIGURES OF LIGHT
...FIGURES OF
HOPE.

IT'S BEEN
SO LONG
SINCE HE'S
KNOWN
HOPE.

THEN THE FIVE FIGURES FADE, TO BE
REPLACED BY A SIXTH. A WOMAN.

SHE KNOWS HIM--AND,
IN SOME INEXPLICABLE
WAY, HE KNOWS HER.

IS SHE SISTER? LOVER? FRIEND?
MOTHER? HE HAS TO GET TO THE
TRUTH!

THEN THE SHADOW-THINGS RETURN...
SWEEP THE WOMAN AWAY. AND HIS
HEART BREAKS.

AND HE
SCREAMS.

NOO OOO!



DONNY...?
SWEETIE--
WHAT IS
IT?

DON'T GO,
DON'T GO!
DON'T GO!

DONNY!



WHAT?

WAKE UP,
SWEETIE.

WAKE UP? I WAS
AWAKE. I THINK.
I DON'T KNOW.

YOU WERE
SLEEPING,
SWEETIE. THE
DREAMS...

THE
DREAMS.



THE
GOD
DAMN
DREAMS

IT'LL
BE ALL
RIGHT.



WILL IT?

HOW MANY YEARS,
NANCY? HOW LONG HAS
THIS BEEN GOING ON?

IT'S LIKE THERE'S
SOMETHING *IN* THERE...
SOMETHING INSIDE ME
TRYING TO *FORGE* ITS
WAY OUT. YET, NO MATTER
HOW HARD I TRY--

-- I CAN'T
GET TO IT.

IF YOU'D GO SEE
DR. LAWN-- I'M SURE
SHE'D BE ABLE TO--



NO, THERE'S
ONLY *ONE* WAY
OUT OF THIS
FOR ME.



ONE
WAY

TIPPITY TAP TAP TAP

TIPPITY TAP

FINGERS DANCE ACROSS
THE KEYBOARD. SHADOWS
DANCE ACROSS THE WALLS.

It was black; hideous; with eyes that saw all secrets,
and the sardonic, lopsided smile. Barlowe sat in the
chair studying it, wondering if...

LONG AGO... FAR AWAY...
ONCE UPON A TIME...

...ON A MAGIC WORLD... IN A MAGIC
GLADE... FOUR MAGICAL BEINGS
LAY SLEEPING...

...DREAMING...

...OF A LIFE
THAT WAS
FOREVER...

...BUT ENDED
ALL THE SAME.

FOREVER PEOPLE

CREATED BY JACK KIRBY

FROM EARTH
TO
FOREVER!

J.M. DE MATTEIS
WRITER

PAUL CULLING
PENCILLER

KARL KESSEL
INKER

TODD KLEIN
LETTERER

HELEN WISK
COLORIST

KAREN BERGER
EDITOR











**VYKIN THE
BLACK!**

FOR A MOMENT HIS EYES ARE
UNFOCUSED...DISTANT...NOT
OF THIS PLACE OR TIME...NOT
OF THIS PLANE OF EXISTENCE--

--BUT THEN A CLARITY...A HUMANITY...
ASSERTS ITSELF--AND A SOFT, SWEET
SMILE PLAYS ACROSS VYKIN'S LIPS



but i'm afraid that
worse high-fishes
will.

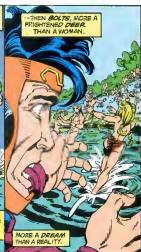
HIGHFATHER?
THEN...YOU'RE FROM
NEW GENESIS?

Up from nowhere--
and everywhere from
time--and beyond
time. I am--

--maya--

--and i've
come to take
you home.





I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

THE WAY SHE LOOKED... THE WAY SHE ACTED... ALL OF THEM. IT WAS LIKE IT WAS BEFORE, WHEN--



when you first arrived here.

THEN THOSE SHADOW-THINGS THAT SWIFT OVER FOREVERTOWN--



rolled back time itself-- all across this world.

THEY DUG INTO MY MIND... USED MY LONGING-- FOR THE OL' DAYS.

THE FOUR OF US... WE REMEMBER WHAT'S GONE DOWN ALL THESE YEARS, BUT, OTHERWISE, IT'S LIKE --

none of it ever happened.



Wydon never died.



I...DIED?

I DID.



big boss and dadman never wed... never conceived a child.



and maski wife--

-- WAS NEVER EVOLVED BY VIKING TECHNO-PSYCHIC SURGERY!

MERRY... STURGEON... WENDY... MY OWN CHILDREN--

-- THEY... DIED...

THIS

IS

IN-

SANE!

KRAA! AKK





AAKKKK!





...IS HE--IS HE
GONNA BE DEAD?

that, you i
cannot say.

THERE'S GOTTA BE
SOMETHIN' YOU CAN
DO TO HELP HIM!



you know
the answer,
don't you?

YEAH, I
GUESS I KNEW...
THE MOMENT I
SAW YOU.



of all of them...only
you remained in this
dark yesterday...with
what you all once were.
the others couldn't even
remember to use their
powers when the
shadows descended...
on forest town.

dear scribe, the very
things that allowed you
to be seduced by the
dark...has allowed
you to see me as I
am.

THE DARK!
WHO ARE
THEY? OH,
MAYA--

--WHO?
HAVE I
DONE?



what has
happened--had
to happen.

NO! IT WAS
MY FAULT!
IT WAS--

serifon--



--my favorite child...let it be
you will pay the price for what
you've done...you're paying it now.
but don't waste your suffering...
don't dance with it.

let it come...
do its work...
and be gone.

WHEN ARE
YOU GONNA
TELL THE
OTHERS?



for now, all they
need know is that
highfather sent
me.

you'll keep
my secret...
won't you?

FOREVER...
MAYA,

FOREVER.

HIS AWAKE -- BUT NOT ALIVE. HE WALKS -- BUT THE NIGHTMARES CONTINUE...



MR. BURMAN?







"WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US, MAYOR?"
"I told you, home." "THEN WE ARE
GOING TO NEW GENESIS!" "new
genesis is beyond our reach..."
"THEN MAYOR, ARE YOU DRIVING US?"
"you'll see."

"I DON'T UNDERSTAND..."
"what is it, mark?" "WHY
COULDN'T WE JUST--" "repeat
the evolutionary process? /
transform the natives all
over again?" "YES! VIKING
TECHNO-PSYCHIC EVOLUTION!"
"killed him once, would
you have him die again?"
....

"I know it's hard for you, my
children--but I have to ask!
you to trust me."

AND STRANGELY -- THEY DO.







NEXT: **FOREVER FALLS!**

This Comic was
brought to you by

BATMITE

He had to cross
the dimensions to
bring it to you.

... Anyone who doesn't
like it will get hurt

AWAY THERE
YOU ARE A LITTLE
CREEPY